

7 May 1965

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Senator Kennedy - Use of Bureau of Public Roads'
Lands Adjacent to Headquarters

REFERENCE: Memorandum for the Record, 6 April 1965
Same Subject

1. I called Mr. Wendell Pigman, Office of Senator Robert Kennedy, to determine whether land utilization plans and architectural drawing for the swimming pool were available. Mr. Pigman referred me to Mr. Melvin Levy, who is associated with the accounting firm of Ernst & Ernst.

2. Upon contacting Mr. Levy, it was learned that Doxiadis Associates, Inc., an engineering firm with offices on Thomas Jefferson Street in Georgetown, had drawn up preliminary plans for the swimming pool, which involved a building 400 feet long on three acres of land. Mr. Levy indicated the plans were too ambitious for their fund-raising capabilities, and as a result, Doxiadis is drawing up another set of plans which should be available in two or three weeks. In either event, the basic plan will be to build the indoor pool in an evacuation, permitting the installation of a 30 meter tower which will require that the roof be at least 33 1/2 feet above the level of the water. In no case would the building protrude above normal tree height in the area.

3. Mr. Levy indicated that the organization has been formed by active members of the National Capital Swimming Association and is called the National Amateur Aquatic Foundation. It has recently gained tax status as a charitable organization. Mr. Levy indicated that the prime interest is to fight against the demise of Olympic caliber swimmers on the East Coast, citing the fact that 75 per cent of the last

Olympic swimming team came from the West Coast, and stated that the motivation and drive is coming from a group of parents sincerely interested in obtaining this facility for the use of swimmers belonging to some hundred swimming clubs in the Washington metropolitan area. Of course, it is intended that the pool will be public.

4. Mr. Levy indicated that there will be a meeting held at St. Alban's gymnasium at Wisconsin and Massachusetts Avenue tonight at 8:00 p.m. and invited us to come out and hear their presentation. He indicated that so far they are quite sure that both Senator Brewster and Congressman Broyhill will serve on the Board of Directors. I asked what announcements would be made pertaining to land which could be used for the project. He indicated that it has been agreed that they would limit their comment on this to indicate that it would be in the general Cabin John Bridge area. This area is prized by them since it is easily accessible to residents in Fairfax and Montgomery Counties, the greater portion of swimming clubs. He felt that the Bureau of Public Roads' site was extremely attractive because water, sewage, and power were available, and it was served by public transportation.

5. Mr. Levy seemed to be a most sincere and down-to-earth individual and said he would send me the printed material they so far have available on the project. I told him that we, in all likelihood, would have a representative at the meeting to hear their presentation, and he welcomed this and said no publicity would be made of that fact. I am getting in touch with Senator Kennedy's office to indicate that we are getting the facts together and will be back in touch with him as soon as they have been evaluated.

6. I briefed Colonel White on this matter, and he indicated that he would want the St. Alban's meeting covered and asked that I pass this information on to Mr. Bannerman who will arrange to have it covered. Colonel White's initial reaction to the project was that it sounded like a good idea, and he could not at present foresee an objection on the part of the Agency to it.

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Office of Legislative Counsel

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